

REMARKS

This Application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Official Action mailed October 6, 2003. Claims 1, 9, and 14 have been amended. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and favorable action in this case in view of the following remarks.

Examiner Interview

Applicants appreciate the telephone interview with Examiner Choudhary held on December 3, 2003. In that interview the *Austin* reference was discussed. In particular it was clarified that the Examiner contends that *Austin* shows the distribution of multiple copies of the same render job to multiple machines and that the Examiner contended that this activity read on the then-present claims because each copy included both the claimed first and second frames. The Examiner also indicated she believed the art of which she was aware did not teach distributing different portions of a render job among different render servers where the various portions were not all sent to all servers and that amendment of the claims along these lines should overcome the art of record.

Section 102 and 103 Rejections

Claims 1-5, 7-11, and 13-20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,761,396 to Austin et al ("*Austin*") and Claims 6 and 12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Austin*, in further view of Fontana et al ("*Fontana*"). Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections for reasons provided below.

Claim 9, as amended, recites "distributing respective subsets of one or more different render frames of the render job via a second communications medium to respective ones of a plurality of render servers coupled with the remote second schedule server based at least in part on the job profile, each respective subset not distributed to any of the plurality of render servers other than the respective one of the plurality of render servers." *Austin* does not show limitation. As described above, *Austin* involves distribution of a copy of a render job, such that the same frames are rendered by two different computers. Thus, *Austin* does not teach distributing some but not all of a plurality of frames of a render job to a render server, and in particular does not teach distributing respective subsets to respective ones at a plurality of render servers where each subset is not distributed to any of the plurality of render servers other than the respective one of the plurality of render servers. For at least these reasons,

Austin does not teach the above limitations, and Claim 9 is allowable. For analogous reasons, independent Claims 1 and 14 are allowable. As depending from allowable independent claims, all dependent claims are allowable.

Applicants therefore respectfully request reconsideration and favorable action for all pending claims.

CONCLUSION

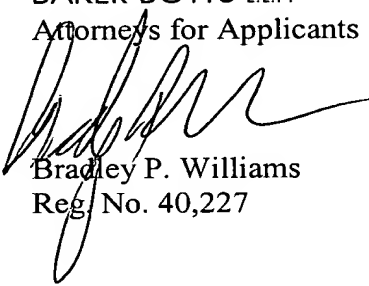
Applicants have made an earnest attempt to place this case in condition for allowance. For the foregoing reasons, and for other apparent reasons, Applicants respectfully request full allowance of all pending Claims.

If the Examiner feels that a telephone conference or an interview would advance prosecution of this Application in any manner, the undersigned attorney for Applicants stands ready to conduct such a conference at the convenience of the Examiner.

A check in the amount of \$750.00 is enclosed to cover the RCE basic filing fee. Although no other fees are believed to be due, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees required or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 02-0384 of Baker Botts LLP.

Respectfully submitted,

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